Recd May 23
Ans June 1st

Cambridge 24th April, 1858

My Dear Engelmann,

You will have been calling me a most shabby fellow, and with some reason; but if you knew what a regular fever and stir I have been kept in, you would make great allowances.

Besides, I determined not to write to you until I could answer the despatch of your box of Whipple's Expd. This I could not do last week, because tho' they were despatched, my request to be informed thereof had not been attended to.

A long and tedious job it has been, indeed, getting hold of these boxes. Some were packed for you at Washington as I could learn. Capt Wilkes had 200 copies of the letter-press, without plates, as I informed you in my last, and at length we got answers from him offering to give up 100 of them, and I was to furnish him plates for his

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Cov. I got the sheets from Bigelow a month ago — packed up 50 in my garret for you — & sent 50 to Newport, where Jersey had got 200 copies of the plates struck off from the stones — with directions to have 500 copies of plates added to the letter-press and sent to your brother — 500 copies sent in to me — to keep; and the other 100 sent to Bigelow, in exchange for letter-press — you to settle with him when you get home, if you should become a greater portion.

Well, the 50 to be sent here have not come. I shall write to ask about them. But the box for you with 500 copies, went by Stonington steamer Narragansett on the 15th — consigned to Rodney of Stonington for your brother, and Hunter, who aided me in the shipment promptly, wrote to advise your brother of it. So you will get them at length. I never found anything so difficult

as to get this job through — Even now I cannot get the bill of printing plates — which is in Torrey's hands, and which I have told him I am all ready to pay.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

Now can I send a copy to Dr. Gray, for I have not the plates, without waiting longer? I will mail the text, and ask Thurber — the only man I can depend on, to mail the plates from Northfield. And to make all sure, you may besides send him a copy from those which you will receive at Frankfort, about as soon as this letter. —

You have had a nice time — you & wife & boy. — But now you will have to come home soon. Make the most of it, while you are across the pond. And on your way back you must work awhile at Kew.

How could you think I would be displeased at your not giving up Bermuda at my suggestion, but at Strokers & Brown's? Not a bet of it. That would be small enough. Besides I would not put my opinion to be ~~[illegible]~~

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rankled along with Morris, or even Hoskins!

We news here; and I have accomplished little scientific of any — am now busy teaching till July. (Nice pretty well for all the family. We get along, though Mr. Loring is a heavy loser; he will get through most likely without going to the wall. But Mr. Lowell's fortune is reduced from half a million to, perhaps, 100,000 dollars — perhaps 50,000! Frederstein has been home all winter; but totally unfitting for Journey; and he will be here again this summer to make some drawings for Mighels's Report.

The box to Priestland with the fullest set of Mighels's Cuba plants, has been lost by the steamer, as he may have told you.

Agassiz & family are to visit Paris in July, and Switzerland; to be home 1st Oct. He has a 2d offer of the chair of Natural Hist. at Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris. It is thought he will not take it: I should not wonder if he did, though, it, as they offer, it will be kept open for him 2 years.

My wife sends her regards & love to Miss E. — & begs to hear from her. I will not neglect you so much again, yours

Your latest to me is Dec 29! Ever A. Gray

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Cambridge 15 June 1872

My Dear Sir

My Report on the Plants collected in Lieut. Maynard's Expedition will be ready in a few days. I have found in the collection a few novelties, which I have described.

Do you wish me to forward the MS. to you by mail? If so I will do so at once.

I lately, after a long interval, received a pleasant letter from your good brother.

Yours very truly A. Gray

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Recd Frankfort July 18th

St Leonards Dec. June 29. 1858

My Dear Engelmann.

Yours from Florence, of May 2, crossed my last, and now I have your letter from Paris, of June 4. What a nice time you have been having. But, on your way back, you ought to cross the channel once more, and rest a fortnight at Kew. For a month hence you will be en route for home. Well, it is about time. You have had a good holiday.

About your Cactaceae essay. You must not suppose I minded any amount of pains when I can serve you or any friend. My feeling of annoyance was that I could not get hold of the thing — could not get it in my hands for us to control it at all, and do what you wanted. First, I could not get proofs of the

letter press; and they make very bad work even when posts have been missed by us, as you have occasion to see — but it is dreadful when we have no posts. Then notwithstanding all your careful arrangements for extra-copies were supplied from W., and I had to get them from Bigelow in the way I explained. Then as to the plates I had to depend on Jonny & and if it had not been for Thumbs aid I should never have succeeded in getting the 50 W. And from that time to this I have endeavored in vain to get the other 50 into my own possession, and to get the account of this & other Reports settled & paid. In all I have been utterly helpless; when, if I could have had it in my own hands, all would have gone right, and no time lost. So to Jonny — good man. I hope you may never have to do any business through him. No orders from him yet, but I will ask him to write you immediately, if there is any thing. I do not know about Jonny, it seems is as bad as Jonny, about answering letters. I never have had any thing to do with him, since he stinked off Night — an

excellent collector.

You will know that Agassiz declined the Paris offer. When I see you tell me ~~[illegible]~~ the private history of this remarkable offer. Sometimes I think A. is sorry not to accept it.

We have lately been having a painful time with him, owing to a remarkable manifestation of impracticability and impervious temper. On reflection, it is hoped he will be more considerate. But I hear he is still awfully angry.

I have written to the delightful Madame Vilmorin about the Strawberry Plants sent to me by Hilgard. They came on from St. Louis in the heat of last summer, — nearly dead — a further journey would have killed them all outright. So I planted them, & this spring forgot them. Yet a few are alive & doing pretty well. I will send them this fall, along with other specimens of the very same thing from this vicinity.

I am very busy still with college lectures & recitations, & shall be for 10 days more. Then I mean to make a little visit to Quebec, with my wife, & be quiet a little. And that is all for this year, unless I run on to Stockbridge in August to meet

you, if you will but come and see us on your way to St. Louis.

Might has been here, ever since last December, hard at work at his Plants of Rogers' Expd. I am doing the Japan collection for him, with considerable care & time (which might to be all concentrated upon the Pacific Exploring Expedition, that must be finished this year).

You, know by this time that Agassiz will not be over to France this year.

I have not accomplished very much this year past. We are well, my wife literally strong, and all much as when you left us. Mrs. Gray sends her love to Mrs. E. and kind messages to you and to George, — who is by this time quite a young man. I suppose We should be glad to see you here once more.

I am too tired — after a hard and hot day in college — to write more, but I remain Ever yours cordially

Asa Gray

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

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Rec'd New York Aug 31st

Cambridge, Aug. 5, 1858

My Dear Engelmann

Your letter of July 18th came last evening, and now, I suppose, you are near our shores! Welcome back again! I would go on to New York to meet you; but I cannot get away now. I have just got some funds for building a new green-house, & have pulled down the old one, and have to arrange about replacing it with a new one, without loss of time. And it is only on Monday that I can get a hearing of the Treasurer to put it moving. I very much fear you will find in

Southwick, expecting you — his family up the river — unless he should be on a visit there. But now he knows of your expected arrival he will arrange to see you.

I fear it is no use to ask you; but Mrs. Gray & I should be well pleased if you would make us a visit before you go to St Louis.

One sad piece of news. Mrs. Skinner has lost her youngest child while you were away — early this summer.

You will have to drive right in to your profession when you get home, I suppose, but you must save time for Botany. What a fine time you have been having for two years, — it must have

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made you young again, — Give us all the news you bring, when you get time. Let me know if I can do anything for you.

I am busy as ever — might have at work — and I am deep in Japan plants.

Mrs Gray sends her love to Mrs. Engelmann & Sarge; and, with sincere felicitations on your happy return, I am, my dear E.,

Ever yours sincerely

Asa Gray

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Rec'd Aug. 18 1858.

Cambridge. August 14th

Dear Captain

Thanks for your line, brought this morning by Buckley. — You should have found a letter from me in the P. O. at N. Y. awaiting your arrival. I wrote it on Friday last.

I am very sorry I can not come to see you — but we are just in the nick of time about our conservatory & delays of other parties keep me just now — for a week or two. If I were to leave all would be spoiled. Why not come on here, with Lizzy?

Ever Your affectionate
A. Gray

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Rec'd October 24

Charlestown. 14th Oct 58.

Ans Oct 24th

Dear Sir,

Yesterday I despatched your boxes, per Adams Express — as per order. — One large, and one small one. They will cost a heap of money by express. I have put them into Boston free of charge.

By this time you are in your house. I hope it all comfortable, and ready for to set to work.

I rejoice to hear that Mr. Shaw keeps up his zeal, and will make a creditable establishment. I wish him all prosperity. If he will make and keep up a general herbarium

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it will save you much time & money.

I have sent the boxes addressed to you. I forgot the Rents Flor.

We had a pleasant journey of 3 weeks, staying in N. York & returning via Montreal & Quebec. Mrs Gray much improved temporarily, but has fallen back somewhat since our return.

Of course I want Aristida ramosissima.

I want to send some also to Anderson — from whom a parcel is on the way to you, in a box for me.

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Might will soon be off again for Cuba.

Fendler & Hutton are coming home by first vessel.

Can't we somehow send them to Utah, & you as a good Democrat should get them some position — to enable them to get on, & live while they collect plants.

My wife sends her best regards & love to Mrs. Engelmann & Georgie.

I will write a longer letter next time. — Mail waits. Ever yours

Asa Gray

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Ans. Nov 5th
Ans. Dec 16

Cambridge, Oct. 30, 1858

My Dear Engelmann

I have your letter 24th. Sartwell is an old friend of Dr. Darlington's — new to me, but writing to me of late. — I know not his age, profession — character, etc — etc — but he writes like a gentleman, and appears to know the plants around him very well.

Buckley dries plants, I doubt if a great many. He is a queer — rather uncertain person.

Lyriset Lach has reported over 100 names of Cuba all. Might — partly from Dr. Gray, — partly from an impulse at set I gave him. — And will go on. When I get a 2d batch — which I like I shall do — I will supply you.

Sartwell will soon publish the names of the Ferns.

Might will go back soon to E. end of Cuba — & I think will do well for botany. — He will have better facilities than before.

He is at home, in Boston, — will be here soon, and off in 1st vessel.

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I dare say some of our Sagittaria are annual.

The boxes were in good order when they left here.

Hope you are getting settled down & comfortable

I met Aguiar, at Club. [He is cordial & pleasant] He had not heard of your return which I wondered at.

Ida came back in the summer — with Hellier, in August — She is perfectly well, and fat, — real German looking, I gave your remembrances —

I heard from his uncle Walter, in August. — from Dr. Walter & hear very often, No special news. Dr. Walter was working at Indian Euphorbiaceae

I have just been working at Hughes, Jaffna & Low — Obv Rubiaceae of Might.

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and the Composite — have almost finished the latter. — I must get at Wilkes' Expd. cell. again very soon.

Last night a thief tried to break into our house — on the back side. raised a window — & burst & broke a shutter. — made such a bang, it woke us, I pray, who rushed down stairs hastily, & then rushed out. We saw nobody, & ran off frightened at his own noise.

Agassiz enquired particularly after George — Our regards to him. — & love to Mrs. Engelmann

Hendler is with you — at least in St. Louis

Short is ready to advance something if he will fall

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to collecting again, whenever you say. Get him some appointment with the army at Utah. That is the place. What is the good of your botte being democrats if you cannot get something for it!!

Ever yours truly

A. Gray

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Recd Nov 12th

Ans Dec 16 Cambridge, Nov. 8, 1854.

Dear Engelmann,

I have your of the 30th ult.

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GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

I paid Lesquereux only for the Musci, — but directed him to retain your copy until you return home —

Send the enclosed to Lesquereux, writing directions to him in what way to forward to Geneva the parcel.

Might it to pail back to Boston in 10 days, give him some directions about collecting Lactacae & Euphorbiae, and also to send you seeds & specimens of same in letters, from time to time.

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The box from Anderson is on the way, in vessel from Stockholm to Philadelphia, not here yet.

I will see if the Sunny Monthly Mag. can be found in our Library. If it is scarce I will cheerfully copy or have copied the matter which Carpenter wants.

Old McCabe, I see, is a Freshman — He could not come under my eye for a year yet. But I will find him out & invite him to our house, if he comes to come.

A good idea for Fendler — to make him a Curator — if not, Shaw will do it. But I will be happy a decent — man to have him

Collect some living plants & seed — in the fore cut. for Stylus Hissminus?

Kew Garden send out collectors.

What say you to Shaw's buying Funklin's set of Venezuela plants, complete* in place of the one you have, & which I could probably dispose of. — See let Karsten have it, if he will. —

Otherwise I shall have to send you from here the continuation of Funklin's coll. (1856-7)

The set of Mexicn plants you have amounts to $61.80 — But you need not

* Minus Orchids, which go to Lindley

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remit it hitherto, for I shall have some money collected for Gandler, and then, I will draw on you in his favor, to cover this amount.

Remember me kindly to Gandler—

My wife send best regards to you and yours—

I hope you will get some leisure this winter & get well settled down in comfort.

Ever yours

Asa Gray

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Did I send you my
Port - Marchis of Tempi,
&c - of Ringgold's & Rodgers
Expedition,

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Rec'd 9 Dec
Ans 10 Dec

Cambridge, Dec 3, 1858

My Dear Engelmann

Tell Hendler that I had already sent off to England some of his plants, and I will send others to the Continent soon.

I will forward your continuation set when you say so.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

Might has gone to Cuba. When Shaw takes their collections, please pay Hendler the ~~Mights~~ amount of Mights Cubans = $61.80 instead of remitting to me, and I will charge it to Hendler against moneys I shall have for him.

Mr News. Hard at work!

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slow progress, as usual.

Darwin asks me to find out, if you medical men have ascertained or noticed any difference in liability to take fevers of warm climates, — say Yellow fever — between light-complexioned and dark-complexioned people of the Caucasian race.

If you know personally anything about it, — or where anything is published bearing on the point, kindly let me know, and oblige, Your old friend Asa Gray

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Rec'd Jan 1 1859
Ans Jan 3d

Cambridge 27th Dec. 1858

Dear E. Happy New Year to you & yours!

Turned out of my rooms to make way for children & frolics, so — I could not till Xmas was over answer your letter of 16th —

I should say, work in all your need of your brother's collection into your Hayden Report.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN
GEORGE ENGELMANN PAPERS

But now, here is a qn.

About 3 weeks ago Dr. Hayden wrote to me (I never communicated with him before) & begged I would put names to a collection of his of Platte — Rky Mts. plants — & by next year — I told him I was too busy, but would heartily do so to oblige him, other I might not — Well, 3 or 4 days ago

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came a pretty lubby collection —
And then your letter, saying
you were working up his plants —
Lucky I had known this, then
I should have declined his proposal
& told him to send all to you —
I suppose the collection from is
a later one than that you have,
Well, I have now written to
Dr. Hayden, telling him that,
unless he forbids — I shall go
on, the rest in names (very brief)
& then send the whole collection
on to you, with my ~~notes~~ name
to help. you can then do them
up nicely & neatly. Send
good things,

As to your enclosures —
Your 'Actinella pulmonata' (no flower) =
Erigeron compositum. Ah, = pedatum, Mert.
Ch

Your "Senecio Canus flor.?" very like – I can throw no light on it without the leaves – perhaps a form of the polymorphous S. aureus.

"Antennaria dimorpha" per Nuttall, there is a bit of Nuttall's own plant.

"Lactuca Ludoviciana" I still know nothing about it, I want to see the whole plant.

I will always gladly answer any of your queries – as far as I can. Ever yours

A Gray

Poor Shaw – very sorry, he should stick to "Hortus Botanicus Missouriensis" & let the women alone.

I hope your brother will collect in British [illegible]

P.S.

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My head is still all full of
Japan Botany

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